

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A tripeptide or an alkyl ester thereof which is connected to a drug, said tripeptide or alkyl ester thereof being selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted Phe-Phe-Pro, Pro-Phe-Phe, Phe-Phe-Ser, Ser-Phe-Phe, Phe-Phe-Asn and Asn-Phe-Phe, said drug being connected to said tripeptide via its not terminal proteolytic enzyme cleavable amino acid moiety ~~said tripeptide comprising a not terminal proteolytic enzyme cleavable amino acid moiety that is connected to a drug~~ said drug being a drug for the treatment of arthritis, invasive parasitic diseases, Paludism (Malaria), AIDS, tumors and cancer.

2. (Previously presented) The tripeptide of claim 1, which is an alkyl ester with the alkyl group being a methyl or an ethyl group, preferably an ethyl group.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) The tripeptide of claim 1, wherein the terminal Phe is fluoro substituted in para position.

7. (Currently amended) A tripeptide or alkyl ester thereof, said tripeptide being selected from the group consisting of substituted Phe-Phe-Pro, Pro-Phe-Phe, Phe-Phe-Ser, Ser-Phe-Phe, Phe-Phe-Asn and Asn-Phe-Phe, said tripeptide comprising a substituent at the not terminal amino acid moiety, said substituent being sufficiently reactive to be useful in drug coupling reactions, ~~wherein the proteolytic enzyme cleavable amino acid moiety is substituted with a substituent sufficiently reactive to be useful in drug coupling reactions,~~ with the proviso that said substituent is not --N(CH₂—CH₂--Cl)₂ in meta position on the not terminal Phe of Pro-Phe-p-F-Phe.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Currently amended) The tripeptide of claim 1 +0 wherein the drug is adriamycin.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a tripeptide or an alkyl ester thereof which is connected to a drug of claim 1.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Previously presented) The tripeptide of claim 1 that is a substituted or unsubstituted Pro-Phe-Phe.
19. (Canceled)
20. (Previously presented) The tripeptide of claim 6 wherein the peptide is Pro-Phe-p-F-Phe.
21. (New) The tripeptide of claim 7 that is a substituted or unsubstituted Pro-Phe-Phe.
22. (New) The tripeptide of claim 7 wherein the peptide is Pro-Phe-p-F-Phe.

23. (New) A method of treating cancer comprising the administration of the tripeptide or alkyl ester thereof of claim 1.

24. (New) A method of treating a condition selected from the group consisting of arthritis, non cancerous tumors, invasive parasitic diseases, Paludism (Malaria) and AIDS comprising the administration of the tripeptide or alkyl ester thereof of claim 1.